THE GREAT COMMISSION.

Some great commissions

Washington's, Franklin's

Many kinds- theological, civil, literary, social

One stands out as THE GREAT COMMISSION- Matt.28:18-20.

The commission of the greatest authority.

For every true Christian worker.

The greatest ~~sermon~~ in all history

64 words. 20 seconds. 6 parts.

Every Xn a missionary right from the word "go".

X says,"Go!". But so many of us Xns have only come and then stopt short.

Have we gone? One third of people have not yet heard. After nearly 2000 yrs 1/3 of our fellows do not know they have a savior? Is this the best return we can make for all that Christ has done for us?

Bishop once asked returned missionary,"How many missionari on your field? 3000. "Did not mean converts"

"I understood your ? and I again answer, 3000"

2. Because there are so many "stand-still" Xns and so many who neither believe in missions nor give to their support it is well for us to recall to mind frequently all that the great missionary enterprise has accomplished.

The triumph of the Gospel in the most difficult fields.

Kingsley thot the natives of Africa were but brutes in human form and incapable of receiving the gospel.

Portugese regarded Africans as a form of apes and wrote over their doors,"Dogs and Hottentots not admitted".

The Zulu traded his children for cattle and ,like the jackal, ate the leavings of the lion.

The kaffir made his mother carry heavy burdens and when she grew too old to work gave her over to the wild beasts.

Now over 1000 ordained missionaries and 17,000 native preachers, and 1,800,000 adherents to Xty. Now Kaffirs and Zulus live jn

houses, wear clothes, care for chirlden and aged, support, government, schools, hospitals and churches, engaged in industries

50 yrs ago Henry Martyn said, "If ever I see a Hindu converted to Jesus X, I shall see something more nearly approaching the resurrection of a dead body than anything I have yet seen." Sir Edwin Arnold when asked his opinion of converting India," "You might as well try to sweetn the Atlantic Ocean by pouring cologne water into it."

Today Xty is an active aggressive power in every branch of social and political life in India. All other religions there are decaying, Xty is growing!

Natives of Borneo, once head-hunters. An American traveler, "Nowhere in the world are life and property so secure as among the once fierce head-hunters of Borneo. I have been robbed by White men in ~~America~~, by black men in Africa, by red men in South America, and by yellow men in China; but among the brown men in Borneo, with no protection whatever I never lost a thing."

A century ago the South Sea Islanders were the most degraded people in all the world.

When Jas.Calvert arrived at the Fiji Is. his first task was to bury the hands and feet of the bodies that just been eaten He lived to see the ~~ø/ø/ø~~ very ones who had eaten the human flesh gather around the table of the Lord. Now among the Fijis Xty is the religion in nearly every family.

New Hebrides. Now 20,000 converts- all missionaries.

New Zealand. Taught children to be cruel. On Sunday now you have to go to the churches to find the people.

History shows that there are no peoples so low and degraded but that the Gospel of J.C. can save them. The Gospel came after everything else had failed. They tried to strangle it in a manger but it was not born to die. They sent out bloody men to behead it in Bethlehem, but they failed to behead the Christ-child. The devil tried to buy it in the wilderness but it was not for sale. Culture sneered at it, but it ~~kept~~ right ~~on~~. They tried to starve it out of the world but kept on growing. They tried to scourge it out of

5. the world but every blow hardened its muscles and strengthened its sinews. They tried to crucify it, but the Cross sprang up into the Emblem of Victory. They tried to bury it but the grave could not hold it. And all down the ages they have persecuted it and discredited it, they have invented substitutes for it and purposefully ignored it, but the Gospel of Jesus Christ remains the power of Almighty God unto salvation to all who will believe. Tho despised and rejected of men, civilization in its government and law, education and culture, science and invention could never have come to pass without the Gospel Christ.

The world wants comfort in its sorrow; light in its darkness; peace in its turmoil; rest in its weariness and healing in its sickness and diseases. The Gospel gives all this to man. The Gospel provides for man's will. "Be ye, therefore, steadfast and immovable." It provides that man may yoke his will to the omnipotent will of God, and thereby become omnipotent himself.

6.

The Gospel provides for man's moral nature. Its code of morals is acknowledged by its enemies to be above reproach. Besides all this, the Gospel provides the only satisfaction in the universe, for man's spiritual nature. Men have tried other ways, but to their sorrow, found them to be byways. Still farther, the Gospel recognizes the tremendous fact of sin, and proposes an adequate remedy. It does not evade the question, "What must I do to be saved?" by saying there is no need of salvation. It does not take a man out of the pit by telling him that he is not there. It does not take away the string of a man's conscience by taking away conscience itself. It does not mock men. It shows them their wound and brings them balm. It shows them their bondage, and it brings the hammer to knock away their manacles. It shows them their nakedness, and it brings them the garments of purity. It shows them their poverty, and it pours into their lap the wealth of Heaven. It shows them their sin, and brings them an Almighty Savior.

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Send the Gospel to all the earth, and let the sons of men give it a trial. Let it purify their bodies; stimulate their intellects; soothe their sorrows; quicken their consciences; [illegible] their faith; and show them the Father; with arms outstretched to receive them.

Our Lord Jesus Christ was missionary.

A city missionary- in Jerusalem.

A Home missionary- in Samaria.

A foreign missionary- in Syro-Phoenicia

There are professing Xns who say, "I dont believe in foreign missions.

Let the long journey of Jesus from heaven to earth put them to shame.

Dr. Skinner while asking for subscriptions for missions was rebuffed by a man saying, "I dont believe in foreign missions. I want what I give to benefit my neibhbors"

"Whom do you regard as your neighbors?" "Those around me" "Those adjacent to your land?" "Yes" "How far down do you

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own?" "Half way, three I suppose." "Well, I want you to give me an offering for your neighbors/~~dirbelll/under/you~~ whose land joins yours at the bottom."

Let us honor the Christ next Xmas morning by putting a generous offering in the red side of the envelope. Baptists and Christians in special envelopes so labelled.

Xmas will mean more if we celebrate it by "Going into all the world by helping to support those who are actually in all parts of the world lifting up the X that all might be drawn unto him.